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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/934,582	08/23/2001	Doreen D. Jiang	782.1115	7884

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STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

CORRIELUS, JEAN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2004

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/934,582

Applicant(s)

JIANG ET AL.

Examiner

Jean M Corrielus

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-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with th correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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1. This office action in response to the application filed on August 23, 2001; in which claims 1-26 are presented for examination.

Drawings

2. This application has been filed with informal drawings that are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed on August 23, 2001 (paper no.4) complies with the provisions of M.E.P.. § 609. It has been placed in the application file. The information referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

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5. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hunkins et al., (hereinafter "Hunkins ") US Patent No. 6,141,663.

As to claim 1, Hunkins discloses the claimed "generating an update request in response to an event that changes subscriber information in a messaging system" (col.2, lines 33-46); and "updating the shared central subscriber directory based on the update request" (col.2, lines 49-67; col.4, lines 13-16 and 25-30).

As to claim 2, Hunkins discloses the claimed " storing the update event at an intermediate server while maintaining synchronicity between the update event and the local messaging system" (col.4, lines 25-30).

As to claim 3, Hunkins discloses the claimed "wherein said generating occurs only when information changed in the message box has corresponding information in the shared central subscriber directory" (col.5, lines 7-20; fig.3).

As to claim 4, Hunkins discloses the claimed "sending the update request from the intermediate server to a proxy client that in turn sends the update request to the shared central subscriber director" (col.5, lines 57-65; fig.3).

As to claim 5, Hunkins discloses the claimed "wherein said generating and updating is performed by a plurality of messaging systems that also access the shared central subscriber directory" (fig.3-fig.4; col.5, line 5-col.7, line 40).

As to claim 6, Hunkins discloses the claimed “wherein said generating is responsive to a change to a message box initiated by a subscriber telephone call” (col.5, lines 33-60).

As to claim 7, Hunkins discloses the claimed “generating an update request for updating the shared subscriber directory server when one of subscriber actions and administrator actions update subscriber information in the voice messaging system” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64); “appending the update request to a queue managed by an update server and in a same order as one of corresponding subscriber actions and corresponding administrator actions occur; reading the update requests, from the queue on a first-in first-out basis” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64, col.10, lines 6-67); “sending the update requests to the shared Subscriber directory server” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64, col.10, lines 6-67); and “updating the shared subscriber directory server in real-time based on the update request” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 64).

As to claim 8, Hunkins discloses the claimed “refreshing subscriber information in the update requests, after said reading and before said sending, in accordance with current corresponding subscriber information in the voice messaging system, when the update requests are one of expired and in a queue not primarily associated with the voice messaging system having the subscriber information” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64, col.10, lines 6-67).

As to claim 9, Hunkins discloses the claimed “wherein said appending, reading, sending and refreshing are performed by an intermediate server managing the queue, and said generating

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occurs at one of an application process, an administrative utility, and a bulk data upload utility” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64, col.10, lines 6-67).

As to claims 10-11, Hunkins discloses “wherein the bulk data upload utility generates update requests for one of ranges of message boxes in the voice messaging system, all message boxes in the voice messaging system, and ranges of message boxes in the voice messaging system”. (Col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64, col.10, lines 6-67; fig.3-fig.4; col.5, line 5-col.7, line 40).

As to claim 12, Hunkins discloses the claimed “wherein the subscriber directory resides in a remote, foreign addressing domain and is shared by messaging systems from different vendors” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64, col.10, lines 6-67; fig.3-fig.4; col.5, line 5-col.7, line 40).

As to claim 13, Hunkins discloses the claimed “appending the update request to a queue of a second art update server when a primary update server is unavailable”(col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64, col.10, lines 6-67; fig.3-fig.4; col.5, line 5-col.7, line 40).

As to claim 14, Hunkins discloses the claimed “reading from a second update server the update requests in the queue responsive to a failure impairing the update server” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 64).

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As to claim 15, Hunkins discloses the claimed “wherein the subscriber action comprises a telephone call that updates the message box of the subscriber”. (Col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 64).

As to claim 16, Hunkins discloses the claimed “wherein one of subscriber actions and administrator actions comprises ore of creating a message box, deleting a message box, modifying a message box, suspending a message box, reinstating a message box, reinitializing a message box, and migrating a message box from a first voice messaging system to a second voice messaging system” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 64).

As to claim 17, Hunkins discloses the claimed “wherein said generating is triggered in an application corresponding to one of the subscriber action and the administrator action” (col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 64).

As to claim 18, Hunkins discloses the claimed “wherein the application corresponding to one of the subscriber action and the administrator action resumes processing immediately after said generating”. (Col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 64).

As to claim 19, Hunkins discloses the claimed “wherein said generating is responsive to a change to a message box initiated by a subscriber telephone call” (col.8, lines 6-64).

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As to claims 20-21, Hunkins discloses the claimed “determining whether name announcements are attributes of subscriber information that are updated on the shared directory server” (fig.3-fig.4; col.7, lines 40-col.8, lines 64, col.10, lines 6-67; fig.3-fig.4; col.5, line 5-col.7, line 40).

As to claims 22-26:

The limitations of claims 22-26 have been noted in the rejection above. They are, therefore, rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(A). US Patent no. 5,657,376, issued to Espeut et al on 08/12/1997. The subject matter disclosed therein is pertinent to that of claims 1-26 (e.g. voice message systems).

(B). US Patent no.5,913,032, issued to Schwartz et al on 6/15/1999. The subject matter therein is pertinent to that of claims 1-26 (e.g. accessing shared information).

(C). US Patent no 6,564,321, issued to Bobo, II on 5/13/2003. The subject matter therein is pertinent to that of claims 1-26 (e.g. message storage and deliver system).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or early communication from the Examiner should be directed to **Jean M. Corrielus** whose telephone number is (703) 306-3035. The Examiner can normally be reached on the Tuesday-Friday (7:00am to 5:30pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on 1703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jean M. Corrielus

Patent Examiner

February 13, 2004